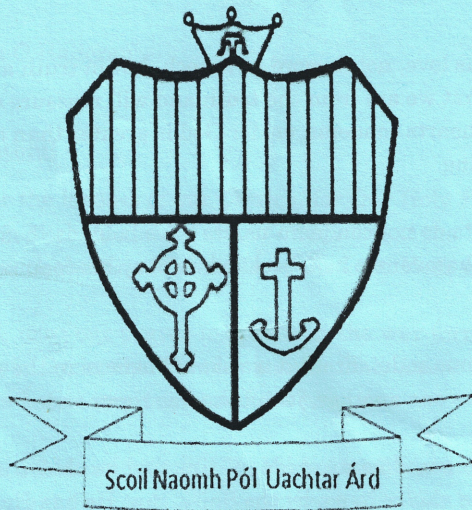


St. Paul's Secondary School

60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass



10<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Celebrant Rev. Fr. John O Halloran

Opening Hymn : Christ be our Light

*In memory of those from the class of 1964 who have returned to the eternal Jerusalem, a family member places a candle in front of the altar to remember them today.*

### Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: 1 John [3:18-24]

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before Him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and God knows everything.

Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from Him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases God.

And this is God's commandment, that we should believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us.

All who obey His commandments abide in Him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that He has given us.

The Word of the Lord

Psalm – A Íosa (Sung by Gerry Darcy)

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John [15:1-8]

Jesus said to His disciples: "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you.

“Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.

Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned.

“If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.” **The Gospel of the Lord**

**Homily – Fr. John O Halloran**

### **Prayers of the Faithful**

1. We pray for the leaders of our Church, for Our Holy Father Pope Francis, our Bishop Michael and for all our clergy – that the Lord will continue to fill them with their zeal for the Gospel. **Lord Hear us**
2. Risen Lord, hear our prayer for peace in the war torn parts of the world, especially in Syria, the Ukraine and the Holy Land. Let the cries of grief and anguish give way to peace. **Lord hear us**
3. We pray for all associated with St. Paul’s; staff and students, both present and past, that they will always strive to ‘Be the best they can be’. In particular we remember the work of the Mercy Sisters who founded St. Paul’s **Lord hear us**
4. For those who are ill – we pray through the intercession of St. Bernadette of Lourdes that those in our community who bear the burden of illness will experience the healing touch of Christ. **Lord hear us**
6. For our beloved dead remembering those from the class of 1964 who have returned to the Heavenly Father– we commend them to the mercy of God. We pray that he grants to all of the faithful departed a safe lodging, a holy rest and peace at the last. **Lord hear us**

Offertory Procession Instrumental - Ag Críost an Siol (Niall Malone)

Communion Hymns – Christ be beside me

Amazing Grace

Cead Mile Failte Romhat

### Reflection

*Extract from The School Where I Studied*

By Yehuda Amichai

I passed by the school where I studied as a child  
and said in my heart: here I learned certain things  
and didn't learn others. All my life I have loved in vain  
the things I didn't learn. I am filled with knowledge,  
I know all about the flowering of the tree of knowledge,  
the shape of its leaves, the function of its root system, its pests and parasites.  
I'm an expert on the botany of good and evil,  
I'm still studying it, I'll go on studying till the day I die.  
I stood near the school building and looked in. This is the room  
where we sat and learned. The windows of a classroom always open  
to the future, but in our innocence we thought it was only landscape  
we were seeing from the window.

Closing Hymn I the Lord of Sea and sky



*First Year Class of 1964*